

December 4, 1953

Dr. Seymour Pomber  
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Betts Avenue  
Stanford, Connecticut

Dear Sy:

I thank you for your letter of November 23 and for the reprints which arrived shortly thereafter. I wish I could thank you now for the cultures for which I had asked. I realize that they may already be in the mail, in which case I hope you will disregard this letter. I would not press you for your courtesy except that Dr. Rubbo, who is to spend a limited time working on this material, has just arrived and is more-or-less suspended until he has them.

I am sending a protocol of a technique that may eventually help to circumvent the cumbersome lyophil method. At least Sol Spiegelman reports that he has had rather good luck with it in his laboratory, although I have not had better than indifferent success with bacteria so far. Our standard procedure for preservation of cultures is now the modified drying method that I believe Hershey described some time ago in the Microbial Genetics Bulletin. This is essentially the same as the method that Lindegren has reported. Only the most rudimentary equipment is required for this method and it is especially applicable to small batches of cultures. If you do not have access to Hershey's account I will be very happy to send you a copy of it although I am equally sure that he would be happy to do so himself. As a routine practice, all cultures received in this laboratory that are likely to be of any future use whatsoever are stored by this drying method.

I am, at least in anticipation, very grateful to you for your cooperation in furnishing these cultures. Thank you also for your cordial remarks about the Lilly award.

Another facet of Dr. Rubbo's problem concerns the isolation of mitochondrial particles from yeast. Do you have any technological suggestions on yeast cultures or methods of yeast culture which give cells with unusually fragile cell walls and which therefore might be more amenable to fractionation methods?

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

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